

(4) Syria

FBIS 68

TASS TRANSMITS TEXT OF JOINT SYRIAN-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ON KHADDAM VISIT

LDI2 6440 MOSCOW TASS IN ENGLISH 1400 GMT [26 APR 75] LD

T (TEXT) MOSCOW APR 26 TASS--FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A SOVIET-SYRIAN COMMUNIQUE:

'ABD AL-HALIM KHADDAM, MEMBER OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST RENAISSANCE PARTY, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, STAYED IN THE SOVIET UNION ON AN OFFICIAL FRIENDLY VISIT FROM APRIL 23 TO 25, 1975, AT THE INVITATION OF THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP.

A. H. KHADDAM WAS RECEIVED BY L. I. BREZHNEV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE. DURING A CONVERSATION WHICH WAS HELD IN A WARM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, THERE WAS A WIDE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON MATTERS OF SOVIET-SYRIAN RELATIONS AS WELL AS ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

AT THE MEETING, A. H. KHADDAM DELIVERED A FRIENDLY VERBAL MESSAGE TO L. I. BREZHNEV FROM HAFIZ AS-ASAD, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST RENAISSANCE PARTY, PRESIDENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.

A. A. GRINYKO, MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE USSR, AND A. H. KHADDAM, MEMBER OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST RENAISSANCE PARTY, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, HAD TALKS ON MATTERS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE TALKS WERE HELD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND (?COMPLETE) MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

THE TWO SIDES NOTED WITH SATISFACTION A SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF ALL-ROUND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND EMPHASISED THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC CONSIDER IT AN IMPORTANT TASK OF THEIR FOREIGN POLICY TO FURTHER DEVELOP AND DEEPEN THEIR (MUTUAL) RELATIONS.

THEY ARE FULL OF DETERMINATION TO MAKE EFFORTS SO THAT THESE RELATIONS BE FILLED WITH INCREASINGLY RICH CONTENT IN BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AND OTHER FIELDS. IT WAS REAFFIRMED THAT THE SOVIET AND SYRIA WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE A FIRM REBUFF TO ANY ATTEMPTS TO UNDERMINE FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THEM.

THE TWO SIDES POINTED OUT THAT MEETINGS BETWEEN L. I. BREZHNEV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND HAFIZ AS-ASAD, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST RENAISSANCE PARTY, PRESIDENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, ARE OF A PARTICULARLY BIG IMPORTANCE AND MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF STRENGTHENING AND FURTHER DEVELOPING SOVIET-SYRIAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS.

WHILE CONSIDERING THE PRESENT-DAY INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, THE TWO SIDES NOTED THE STRIDES WHICH THE (?TWO HAVE) MADE IN THE STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION, FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, FOR ESTABLISHING EQUALITY IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THEY REAFFIRMED A MUTUAL STRIVING TO CONTINUE (WORD S INDISTINCT) IRREVERISIBLE CHARACTER AND SPREADING TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

THE TWO SIDES EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF VICTORIES (?OF THE PEOPLES OF VIET NAM AND CAMBODIA AND STATED THAT THE PROBLEMS OF THOSE COUNTRIES BE HANDLED BY THEIR PEOPLES WITHOUT ANY INTERFERENCE FROM THE OUTSIDE.

WHILE (?STUDYING) THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE SOVIET UNION AND SYRIA REAFFIRMED THEIR (?POSITION THAT) CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS AND ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO RECOGNIZE THE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE ARE THE CAUSE OF THE REMAINING EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IN THE AREA. THEY (WORD S INDISTINCT) THE INTERESTS OF UNIVERSAL PEACE REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH THE UN RESOLUTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND (?AND END) THE UNRESOLVED PROVOCATIONS AGAINST ARAB COUNTRIES.

(TEXT) THE TWO SIDES AGAIN REAFFIRMED THEIR CONVICTION THAT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CAN BE ESTABLISHED ONLY PROVIDED ISRAEL WITHDRAWS ITS TROOPS FROM THE ARAB TERRITORIES IT CAPTURED AND THE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO A NATIONAL STATE, ARE SATISFIED. THE SOVIET UNION AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE VIGOROUS EFFORTS TO ATTAIN THESE ENDS. THEY STATE THAT SEPARATE AGREEMENTS CANNOT ENSURE A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

REAFFIRMED WAS THE TWO COUNTRIES' POSITION ON A NEED FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE WORK OF THE GENEVA MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE AT AN EARLIER DATE WITH THOROUGH PREPARATION FOR AND PARTICIPATION OF ALL THE SIDES CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, ON EQUAL RIGHTS WITH THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE. ANY PARTIAL MEASURES SHOULD BE A CONSTITUENT INTEGRAL PART OF AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT AND DECISIONS ON THEM MUST BE WORKED OUT AND TAKEN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

THE TWO SIDES AGAIN REAFFIRMED AN IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING THE DEFENCE POTENTIAL OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE CONTINUING ISRAELI AGGRESSION, AS WELL AS HER RIGHT TO USE ALL MEANS TO FREE THE OCCUPIED SYRIAN TERRITORIES.

THE SOVIET UNION HIGHLY APPRECIATES THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC'S POLITICAL COURSE WHICH MEETS THE INTERESTS OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AS WELL AS HER EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND STRENGTHEN THE UNITY OF ACTION OF ARAB COUNTRIES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION.

THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC GIVES A HIGH APPRAISAL OF THE SOVIET UNION'S PEACEFUL FOREIGN POLICY AIMED AT EASING TENSION AND STRENGTHENING UNIVERSAL PEACE. IT HIGHLY APPRECIATES THE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT WHICH THE SOVIET UNION GIVES TO THE JUST CAUSE OF THE ARABS AND REAFFIRMS THE POSITION OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC ON A NECESSITY OF THE SOVIET UNION'S PARTICIPATION IN ALL THE STAGES AND IN ALL FIELDS OF A SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

THE TWO SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS OF THE TALKS. THEY EMPHASISED AN IMPORTANCE OF REGULAR CONTACTS BETWEEN THEM FOR COORDINATION OF THE TWO COUNTRIES' EFFORTS AIMED AT FURTHER DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING SOVIET-SYRIAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION, AT ESTABLISHING A LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ABD AL-HALIM KHADDAM, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP FOR A WARM AND CORDIAL RECEPTION GIVEN TO HIM DURING HIS STAY IN THE SOVIET UNION.

(END ALL)

26 APR 163 8Z DD / SAJ